

ARTICLE APPROVED
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Angola angry over vote to lift US ban on guerrilla aid

Washington

Angola announced Saturday it is suspending talks with the United States for a peace settlement in southern Africa.

The suspension is a response to action taken by the House last week, ending a nine-year-old ban on US aid to resistance fighters in Angola.

The ban was overturned in voting on this year's foreign-aid bill. The Senate repealed the law, known as the "Clark amendment," in June.

The Angolan announcement is a setback for the Reagan administration, which is trying to achieve a comprehensive settlement leading to the independence of the South Africa-controlled territory of Namibia.

The US has no formal relations with Marxist-leaning

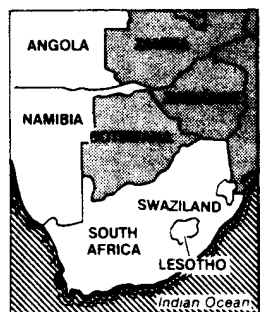
Angola but has held informal talks with the government over the past three years. Negotiations have linked a withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia to a phased withdrawal of 30,000 Cuban troops now in Angola.

In a statement Saturday, an Angolan government spokesman said repeal of the Clark amendment "has left no other alternative but to suspend . . . contacts" between the US and Angola.

US officials say they have no plans to aid guerrillas in Angola. The US plans to continue its quest for a peaceful solution to the Namibia issue, they add.

The Clark amendment was enacted in 1976 after disclosures of secret Central Intelligence Agency support for pro-Western

— George Moffett III



forces in Angola's civil war.